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WIDE

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

No. 280

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BURMA

BRIEFS

HEROIN FLOW DECLINES--Rangoon, 18 December--It has been learned that heroin is very scarce in Rangoon, that it is almost impossible to buy it, and the number of heroin users has lessened a little. Reason for the decline in the drug flow is because of the effective suppression by the Narcotics Suppression Squad, headed by Inspector U Tha U, under the Crime Prevention Branch of the Rangoon Division Police Force. The price of heroin has also risen many fold since it has become scarce; a heroin-packed cigarette sells for 160 kyats, while a penicillin ampoule containing heroin retails for up to 800 kyats--even then it is almost impossible to buy it. It was learned that a U Tha U-led suppression squad is endeavoring to take decisive action against heroin, opium, and marihuana users and pethidine injectors. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 19 Dec 76 pp 8, 5 BK]

DESTROY POPPY FARMS--Sidoktaya, 9 December--A team of people's councilors and members of the 50th Infantry Regiment, People's Police Force, and People's Militia, launching "Operation Hell Flower," destroyed 14 acres of poppy plantations near the border of Sidoktaya and Ngape townships and arrested some poppy growers. Acting on information provided by responsible citizens, members of "Operation Hell Flower," led by the chairman of the township people's council, combed the area beginning the last week of November, first discovering an acre of poppy in Thetkedawng Ywazo. Later they discovered 13 more acres of poppy cultivated secretly in the jungle, and arrested eight poppy growers. They have returned to Sidoktaya after destroying all 14 acres of poppy. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 20 Dec 76 p 4, 5 BK]

SEIZE HEROIN IN PROME--Prome, 11 December--Sub-inspector of Police U Tin Maung Thein and Lance Corporal Maung Nyein of the Narcotic Drugs Suppression Squad of the Prome Township officer's office, Ward Councilor U Kyin Hein, and party searched Maung Than Zaw, son of President U Than Lay of the Watercraft Owners Association of Strand Road [date not given] and seized a package of heroin, a syringe, and two needles. Acting on information, they searched Kandaw-u Cemetery behind the house of Daw Kyi of Seegyiswe Aungthuka Ward and seized 24 packages of heroin, .09 viiss [1 viiss equals 3.60 lbs] of raw opium, about .06 viiss of opium oil, an opium smoking pipe, and some opium refining equipment. Actions have been taken against Daw Kyi and Maung Than Zaw under Section 6 (B) of the narcotic drugs law. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 14 Dec 76 p 6 BK]

DRUG CASES IN MYITKYINA--Myitkyina, 6 December--The Narcotic Drugs Suppression Squad of Myitkyina, Kachin State, dealt with 202 cases of opium and heroin over the past 5 months. They seized 22.54 viss [1 viss equals 3.60 lbs] of opium and .57 viss of heroin. A total of 2,310 addicts have received treatment at the Myitkyina Hospital between 1971 and October 1976. [Text] [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZ in Burmese 17 Dec 76 p 5 BK]

SEIZE HEROIN IN LOILEM--Loilem, 13 December--Acting on information, Sub-inspector U Win Aung Iwin of the People's Police station searched the residence of U Hla Tin of Gurkha Kyaung Road in Ward No 1 in Loilem at 1400 yesterday and seized 16 packages of heroin worth 20 to 25 kyats each from Aung Min, U Hla Rin's son. Aung Min was arrested under Section 6 (B) of the narcotic drugs law. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 20 Dec 76 p 5 BK]

SIX HEROIN ARRESTS--Rangoon, 4 Jan (AFP)--Anti-narcotics squads yesterday raided several teashops here and arrested six persons for possession of heroin, state newspapers reported today. The papers also reported that in the town of Mandalay, Middle Burma, similar squads arrested a heroin peddling gang led by a woman and seized drugs worth over 50,000 kyats (U.S. \$7,000). All those arrested were charged under Section 6 (B) of the Anti-narcotics Act and face 5 to 10 years' jail. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0740 GMT 4 Jan 77 BK]

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

OFFICIAL SAYS COMMUNISTS DRUG YOUTHS--Penang, Mon--Acting Chief Minister Dato Haji Ahmad Badawi Bin Haji Abdullah said here yesterday that the communists, who were trying to create disorder and destroy the country's democratic system of government, were now using drugs to poison the people, especially the youths. He said this at the opening of an exhibition to educate flat residents of the danger of drug addiction and the ways to prevent its spread. The exhibition also featured family planning projects, a children's painting contest and a food and fun fair.

Dato Haji Ahmad Badawi said: "As loyal citizens we should never for one moment relax our vigil and adopt a 'tidak apa' [indifferent] attitude basking in the thought that the problems facing us are the responsibilities of the authorities who are quite capable of handling the situation. I would like to call on all law abiding citizens to wake up and meet this challenge by helping the authorities with information on subversive elements and drug traffickers," he said. [Excerpt] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 28 Dec 76 p 8 BK]

CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

JAPANESE UNDERWORLD MANUFACTURES AMPHETAMINES IN TAIWAN

Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese 28 Aug 76 p 3

[Article by Lien Ho Po reporter, T'ang Ching-lan [0781 4842 3482]:
"Amphetamines Have Potent Toxicity! Gain Exorbitant Profits at Your Own Risk. Once Caught in the Act, It's Too Late for Regrets"]

[Text] At the end of the Second World War, the Japanese militarists in fighting their last-ditch battle, supplied their troops with amphetamines to give them courage to wage suicide combat. After the war, since many veterans had already become addicted, they continued to take the drug.

Since the fad for taking amphetamines has grown steadily more extreme, the Japanese Government has listed them as banned drugs. Even their raw materials cannot be imported. Under these conditions, Japanese underworld elements, in order to squeeze out exorbitant profits, have turned their attention to Taiwan, and have instigated some failed businessmen in Taiwan to set up factories to produce the drugs secretly and then smuggle them back to Japan for resale.

Amphetamines are strong stimulants which can stimulate the nerve centers. After taking them they can cause one to become emotionally excited, to lose control, and to suffer hallucinations. It is extremely easy then to commit acts dangerous to society such as assault, murder, violence and robbery.

Up to now, Taiwan has not discovered anybody taking amphetamines. Even though our government also considers amphetamines as banned drugs, since their raw materials have other uses in medicine, their trade is not restricted.

Unethical businessmen and underworld elements in Japan have focused on this point, and with heavy profits as bait, have enticed lawbreakers to establish factories for manufacturing the drugs.

According to what has been learned, a kilogram of amphetamines costs only 20,000 new Taiwan dollars. Japan buys it wholesale for 100,000 new Taiwan dollars but the general selling price in Japan reaches as much as 14 million yen, about 1.86 million new Taiwan dollars, or profits exceeding over 18-fold.

Those who the Japanese underworld elements choose to manufacture amphetamines are all businessmen who have failed, people with weak will power, greedy for small profits, bitter over frequent losses.

For example, T'an Huo-sheng [6223 3499 4141] was a university graduate who served as an assistant plant manager of a pharmaceutical plant. When Cheng Tseng-ming [6774 1073 2494] first sought to get him to go into partnership, he did not want to. The second time, he still did not want to, but Cheng Tseng-ming went all out, sought an audience with him eight times, and then all at once his heart weakened and he gave in, but as soon as he exported just one batch and was caught in the act, he was in trouble with the law.

Chien K'un-yun[4675 0981 3768] was also unwilling at first but in the same way, he was persuaded by Cheng Tseng-ming to go down the drain. Once the deed is done, it's too late to repent.

7755
CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SMUGGLING FROM HONG KONG

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 3 Jul 76 p 3

[Text] Wang T'ien-wen [3769 1131 2429], who was accused of concealing heroin valued at over 5 million yuan in a box of chocolates and bringing it from Hong Kong into Taiwan, was yesterday sentenced to an indeterminate prison term and perpetual loss of civil rights by a Taiwan district court in accordance with the "Law for Stamping Out Opiates in Order to Put Down Civil Disorder." K'o Shih-ch'in [2688 0013 2953], accused of providing funds for purchase of drugs, was sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment and a fine of 5000 yuan.

The verdict stated: The accused, Wang T'ien-wen, 33, was director of operations for a certain trading company, and at the direction of a gang called the Hsia-men-pang [0033 7024 6721], allegedly masterminded by its boss, K'o Shih-ch'in, who supplies him with 250,000 yuan, he went to Hong Kong on 6 April of this year. On the morning of the 8th he contacted drug smuggler Wei Te-shen [7279 1795 3932] in Kowloon, receiving about one Taiwan chin of heroin valued at over 5 million yuan. He concealed it in a box of chocolates for his return to Taiwan.

On that day, Wang T'ien-wen took Thai Airways Flight 610 back to Taiwan and was apprehended at Sung-shan airport.

After a detailed investigation, police finally tracked down the alleged boss K'o Chih-ch'in, vice president of a large tea company. Detectives working on the case uncovered many communist goods, suspected drugs and contraband articles, all of which were turned over to investigators for filing of charges.

8480
CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

THREE AMPHETAMINE FACTORIES FOUND, ELEVEN ARRESTED

Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese 28 Aug 76 p 3

[Article: "Chinese and Japanese Evildoers Manufacture Banned Drug, Eleven Suspects Trapped. 'Technical Cooperative' Clandestinely Refines Amphetamines. Product 'Processed for Sale Abroad'"]

[Text] The Bureau of Investigation of the Ministry of Judicial Administration, recently following up foreign intelligence, spent a number of days in Taipei, Hsin-chuang and Chien-shan, Miao-li, breaking up three amphetamine factories manufacturing the banned drug, and arrested 11 suspects including a woman, Notoki Hisako, sent by the Japanese underworld to arrange for purchase of amphetamines.

The investigative agents at the scene also found over 600 million yen worth of amphetamines weighing 55 kilograms, 320 kilograms of the raw material, ephedrine, and over 80 pieces of equipment for making drugs.

The 11 suspects were Cheng Tseng-ming [6774 1073 2494], T'an Huo-sheng [6223 3499 4141], Chien K'un-yu [4675 0981 3768], Chien Chen-ch'ang [4675 2182 2490], Ch'en A-shen] [7115 7093 1957], Li Fu-hsiun [2621 1381 7160], Ch'en Chih-lung [7115 1807 7127], Ch'en Ch'ing-p'ing [7115 3237 1627], Chien I-cheng [4675 0001 2973], Liu Wei-hsiang [0491 1218 4382], and the Japanese woman, Notoki Hisako. Yesterday after they were turned over to the Taipei Local Procurator's Office by the investigative agents, the procurator ordered them held in custody.

The three factories belonged to two different drug rings. One of them continued to expand in the month the Bureau of Investigation found out they were manufacturing amphetamines.

The agents on the case following a lead, learned that after Cheng Tseng-ming's business failed in August of last year, he was enticed by the Japanese businessman Watanabe Junichi, into partnership with Chien K'un-yu, plant manager of the Chin-lung [Golden Dragon] Pharmaceutical Plant, and with T'an Huo-sheng who ran a pharmacy in Miao-li. They set-up a plant in Chien-shan, Miao-li for manufacturing amphetamines.

A special group from the Bureau of Investigation went into operation on 24 August. They arrested Cheng Tseng-ming at Hsiang-170, Te-hui Street, Taipei Municipality, and then proceeded to Chien-shan Road, T'ou-fen, where they arrested T'an Huo-sheng and uncovered a whole set of equipment for manufacturing banned drugs. On the afternoon of the 25th, they also arrested Chien K'un-yu in Chi-lung.

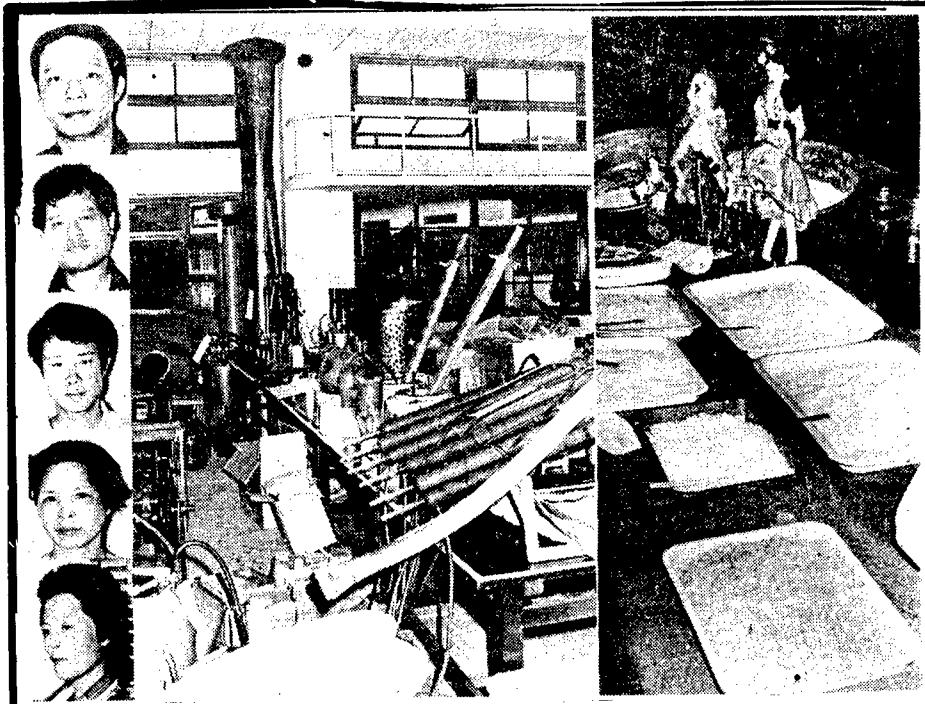
In addition, the Bureau of Investigation also received foreign intelligence that Japanese underworld elements were in collusion with these local bad elements to clandestinely manufacture amphetamines in Taiwan and then ship them back to sell in Japan. Thereupon the bureau immediately organized five action groups which went into operation.

One of the groups, responsible for keeping surveillance of several tourist restaurants in Taipei Municipality, noticed that Ch'en Chih-lung, an employee of T'ung-yuan Industrial Company, often left his office and acted suspiciously.

On the afternoon of 26 August, while the investigative agents of this group were trailing Ch'en Chih-lung, they noticed him come out of a run-down shack on the river bank at Hsiang-61, Chung-cheng Road, Hsin-chuang, carrying three rag dolls in ancient Chinese costume which he delivered to Notoki Hisako, a Japanese woman at Room 615, Liu-fu Inn. When the investigative agents saw their opportunity, they broke into the room, arrested Notoki Hisako and Ch'en Chih-lung, and found 300 grams of amphetamines in the stomachs of the rag dolls Ch'en Chih-lung had been carrying.

The investigative agents ascertained that Notoki Hisako was a major courier for the boss of a Japanese underworld society and that she often transported and sold drugs concealed in foreign dolls and toys. Ch'en Chih-lung also admitted that he had sold the banned drug, amphetamine, to the Japanese underworld over 10 times.

At the same time, several of the action groups went to two factories for manufacturing banned drugs at Hsiang-61, Chung-cheng Road, Hsin-chuang, and T'ung-yuan Company, Hsiang-195, East Min-ch'uan Road, Taipei Municipality, where they seized six people in one fell swoop: Li Fu-hsiung, Chien Chen-ch'ang, Ch'en A-shen, Ch'en Ch'ing-ping, Chien I-cheng and Liu Wei-hsiang.



People and Booty Caught. Equipment, products, raw materials, dolls for transporting, and six major suspects of the two drug rings which the Bureau of Investigation discovered manufacturing the banned drug, amphetamine. From top to bottom: Cheng Tseng-ming, Li Fu-hsiung, Chien Chen-ch'ang, Ch'en A-shen, Notoki Hisako.

7755
CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

FOUR ARRESTED IN TAIPEI, HEROIN SEIZED

Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese 16 Oct 76 p 3

[Article: "China, U.S., UK Drug Crackdown Across the Seas, Four Suspects Seized in Taipei"]

[Text] A few days ago, the Criminal Police in cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Administration of the U.S. Justice Department, cracked open an international drug ring, arrested four suspects, and found 5 grams of heroin.

The drug ring had originally planned to smuggle 734.9 grams of drugs into Taiwan, but suitcases with the drugs concealed in their linings were noticed by customs at London Airport. British customs replaced 729.9 grams of the real drugs with fake drugs and then forwarded the suitcases on to Taiwan. After our police received the intelligence, they sat back waiting for their catch and seized them in one fell swoop.

Since most of the drugs had already been intercepted by the British, the customs agents at London Airport notified the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration that if China provided the air fare, when necessary, they would come to Taiwan to testify in court.

According to the police investigation, the suspects were Lin Sui-jen [2651 6659 0086], 35, temporarily residing in Hong Kong; Huang Chao [7806 6856], 32, overseas Chinese temporarily residing in Hong Kong; Tseng Kuo-nan [2582 0948 0589], 31, temporarily residing in Singapore; and Shih Kuei-lin [2457 6311 7792], 59, proprietor of a diner at Taipei Municipality.

Lin Sui-jen and the others, through frequent trips to Taiwan, had become acquainted with Shih Kuei-lin. Subsequently, Shih suggested that they cooperate and indicated that they could make exorbitant 30-fold profits selling drugs in Taiwan imported from abroad.

Both sides decided that Shih Kuei-lin would be responsible for "home sales" of the drugs, Tseng Kuo-nan would collect funds in Taiwan on behalf of the drug ring, and Lin Sui-jen and Huang Chao would take charge of the shipment of the drugs.

The police stated that the drug ring had already smuggled over 1,500 grams of drugs into Taiwan, worth over 15 million new Taiwan dollars, and had gotten away with it through sheer luck.

In March of this year, the Drug Enforcement Administration of the U.S. Justice Department informed our Criminal Police that Lin Sui-jen and Huang Chao had close associations with international drug rings in Hong Kong and that they frequently traveled to Hong Kong, the United States, Thailand and Taiwan, suspected of selling drugs.

The Criminal Police immediately coordinated the airport coordination center, the air police, the customs in keeping a close watch on their activities. Though it was later discovered they were carrying different passports and that they had come to Taiwan ostensibly as tourists, there was still no solid evidence in hand that they were selling drugs.

However, the criminal police contacted the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration again and learned that the drug ring's drug-selling activities extended to such places as Hong Kong, Bangkok, London, Miami, and Los Angeles.

At the beginning of September of this year, after Lin Sui-jen bought heroin in Bangkok, he concealed it in the lining of his suitcases, intending to fly to the United States by way of Hong Kong and London.

Lin Sui-jen carried on three pieces of luggage, but it just so happened that when he arrived in London, the suitcases with the drugs were misplaced. At that time, he demanded that after British Airways find them, they tranship them to Taiwan, and he proceeded himself to Taiwan.

Not long after, the suitcases were found. British customs discovered the heroin in the linings. They substituted most of it and at the same time, informed the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

Lui Sui-jen waited a long time in Taiwan but the suitcases did not arrive. On 13 September he flew back to Hong Kong. The suitcases arrived in Taiwan on 15 September.

On the 8th of this month, Lin Sui-jen again came to Taiwan. Taking advantage of the heavy airport crowds, he went up to customs and claimed his suitcases and was caught by the criminal police on the spot with his booty.

The agents on the case, the criminal police detectives of squad 1, section 2, under the leadership of section chief Wang Chun-shuai [3769 6746 3764], rushed to Hua-kuo Restaurant where they arrested Shih Kuei-lin, the Fu-chun Restaurant where they arrested Huang Chao, and finally to Kirin Road where they arrested Tseng Kuo-nan.



Four suspects implicated in international drug ring and their suitcases used to ship drugs. From left: Shih Kuei-lin, Huang Chao, Tseng Kuo-nan, Lin Sui-jen.

7755
CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

ARRESTS FOR SALE OF MORPHINE

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 10 Aug 76 p 6

[Text] Police of Ta-An (2192 1344) Precinct, Taipei, yesterday afternoon arrested 3 persons on suspicion of selling morphine. Some 13 packets of morphine were seized. An extensive investigation into the source of the drug is underway. A police spokesman stated that the suspects, Li Chin-fu [2621 6651 1381], 37, Cheng Pang-ho [6774 6721 0735], 46, and Hsu Jui-ch'eng [6079 3843 2052], 21, were selling morphine yesterday afternoon near Kan-ku [3927 6253] Street. A policeman on patrol in the area noticed their suspicious activity and investigated. A search revealed 13 packets of the drug, and the suspects were taken to the precinct station for questioning.

Police said that all the suspects had prior records, and that Li was a habitual opium smoker. The police have handed them over for the institution of legal proceedings and are continuing to seek for the source of the drug.

CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

REDUCTION OF DRUG CONVICTION DEATH SENTENCES

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 4 Aug 76 p 6

[Text] A Taipei local court yesterday sentenced two habitual opium-smoking offenders to death, then reduced the sentences to imprisonment for an indefinite term and permanent loss of civil rights on the basis of the reduction-of-sentence provision.

Ch'en Ting-ch'ien [7115 1353 0051], 43, also known as Ch'en Chin-t'u [7115 6855 1047] and Chu Hsien-chin [2612 0341 6651], 48, both now in custody, are long-time drug dealers with previous criminal records for opium smoking. They completed earlier terms in 1971 and 1972 respectively, but failed to reform, ultimately relapsing into their previous drug-selling activities.

In the verdict it was stated that between September 1972 and March 1973 at different locations in Taipei the accused sold morphine valued at 1800 to 1900 dollars per wa [3907] to Wang Jui-yuan [3769 3843 0337], Chang Ch'i-hui [1728 0796 8748], Lin Chun-hsiung [2651 0193 7160] and Chan Hsi-ch'ing [6124 0796 3237], all of whom have been sentenced in separate proceedings.

On 4 March 1973 Wang Jui-yuan purchased drugs from Chu Hsien-chin by a found-about process. While engaged in repackaging it in Room 206 of the Ch'ing-shui Travel Agency, No 63 Kueiyang Street, he was seized by detectives and remanded for trial.

The verdict said: the accused have repeatedly been guilty of opium smoking and have failed to reform, which makes their offense more grave. The death penalty ought to be imposed, but since their offenses took place before 16 April 1975 they can be handled under the reduction-of-punishment provision. Accordingly the penalty is changed to imprisonment for an indeterminate term and perpetual loss of civil rights.

CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SENTENCE REDUCTION ON 1960 CONVICTION

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 13 Aug 76 p 6

[Text] A 38-year-old woman, Hsu Yu-li [6079 3768 5987] (Mrs. Huang [7806], accused of selling morphine, was today sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment on the drug dealing charge, after consideration of the circumstances of the case, by a Taipei local court.

The verdict said: in April 1960 the accused, Hsu Yu-li, sold a packet of morphine for 20 NT to Su Hsien-nan [5685 7341 3948], who is accused separately, at No 2, Lane 257, Kuang-ming Road, Peitou. On 5 May of the same year she sold a packet of heroin to Chan Wen-fu [6124 2429 4395] and Ch'en Chin-ho [7115 6855 3109], who then sold it to a foreigner named Ho Chih [0149 3112]. When these facts came to light, the accused's mother-in-law, Li Ming-shen [2621 2494 1957] Mrs Huang [7806] was also apprehended with one packet of heroin at the same address.

The verdict stated: Hsu Yu-li committed an offense deserving the death penalty. She had long been an abandoned woman, which brought down upon her the stern measures of the law. But for 16 years she has lived and worked as a sober citizen and has committed no crimes. Her good behavior has been praiseworthy and accordingly her sentence is reduced to 12 years imprisonment, which is further reduced in accordance with the reduction-of-sentence provision to 8 years.

CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

INDETERMINATE SENTENCE FOR DRUG DEALING

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 27 Jul 76 p 6

[Text] P'eng Jung-chi [1756 2837 0679], a long time drug dealer, yesterday was condemned by the Taipei local court to an indeterminate prison term and perpetual loss of civil rights.

The verdict stated: the accused, P'eng Jung-chi, bought drugs from a young man nicknamed Ch'ou Kan-lan ["Stinking Olive"], with which he injected himself twice daily, and also divided up the drugs he bought into packets of various sizes, which he sold in the vicinity of Ti-hua Street, Taipei, for prices ranging from 300 to 500 yuan, sometimes also injecting it for others.

He was apprehended by the police in April while selling drugs.

CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BRIEFS

DRUG SENTENCES--Two men charged with selling and using drugs, Yu Ch'ing-hui [0151 1987 6540] and Hsieh Chin-lai [6200 6651 0171], were sentenced today by the Taipei Local Court to life at hard labor and forfeiture of civil rights. The court decision noted that Yu Ch'ing-hui (23), in April of this year, sold drugs for "Little Lin," a defendant in another case, Lin Chih-hung [2651 1807 7703]. He sold drugs in the vicinity of Hsin-i Park, San-chung Municipality. Since January of this year, he has been shooting morphine himself. Hsieh Chin-lai (33), at the beginning of 1976 bought drugs from a man nicknamed "The Guest Kid." Hsieh Chin-lai also bought half a bottle of morphine for 6000 new Taiwan dollars from a man nicknamed "Chun-hsiung" [0193 7160] at the Ch-lung Municipal Public Park, and sold it under the Taipei Bridge to a man surnamed Hsiang. Yu Ch'ing-hui and Hsieh Chin-lai were arrested by agents of the Bureau of Investigation on 24 May 1976, while they were selling drugs on the walkway of the Kuo-t'ai Jen-shou Company on North Cheng-i Road, San-chung Municipality. [Text] Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 16 Sep 76 p 6] 7755

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

TWO MOSCOW-BOUND MALAYSIAN DRUG COURIERS ARRESTED

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Dec 76 p 3 BK

[Text] Two Malaysians were arrested at Don Muang Airport on Wednesday night after customs officials and crime suppression police seized 2.9 kilograms of No. 3 heroin from one of their suitcases.

Wong Pang Juan (31) and Chong Fong Kooi (34) were arrested just as they were about to board an Aeroflot flight to Moscow. A search revealed the heroin in 66 packets hidden in a false-bottom suitcase.

Pol Maj Phairot Thong-in yesterday said that the two men were kept under surveillance from the time they arrived at the Century Hotel on Ratchaprarop Road until they left for the airport.

According to customs officials the two were acting as couriers and were supposed to hand over the heroin to a contact man in Moscow. They were to be paid 100,000 baht for the delivery.



THAILAND

BRIEFS

DEALERS, AIDES SENTENCED--Two Hong Kong Chinese heroin couriers and their Thai-Chinese accomplice received heavy sentences after the criminal court found them guilty of possessing 31.9 kgs of heroin for trafficking. Chen Sae Tae (36), NG Wing-lit (40), and the Thai-Chinese dealer, Kuang-Hui Sae Tiu, were arrested by narcotics suppression police earlier on 16 July this year while Kuang-hui was handing over the heroin to Chen and Ng. The drug was neatly packed in 31 plastic bags in the boot of a blue Datsun taxi in front of the Central Department Store on Silom Road. Chen Sae Tae, who contested the case, was sentenced to 45 years imprisonment while Ng Wing-lit and Kuang-hui Sae Tiu, who confessed, were sentenced to 30 years each. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Dec 76 p 3 BK]

CSO: 5300

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

ANTIDRUG OPERATIONS--San Salvador de Jujuy, 30 Dec--The national border police carried out several successful operations during the month of December both in this province and in Salta. As a result of these operations 500 kgs of pure coca were seized and eight traffickers were arrested, four Bolivians and four Argentines. Buenos Aires CRONICA in Spanish 31 Dec 76 p 8 PY

DRUG TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Juan Domingo Pisconi, 32, has been arrested in Buenos Aires while selling cocaine. The police found 2 kg of cocaine hydrochlorate and a bag full of money on him. Under questioning he admitted that he purchased the drug in Cordoba and sold it in nightclubs in the federal capital. Buenos Aires CRONICA in Spanish 23 Dec 76 p 7 PY

ARREST OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS--Cordoba--Provincial police arrested the Bolivian, Adalberto Sanchez Justiniano, and the Argentine, Juan Agustin Abeiro, when raiding a house in Cordoba. Those arrested have confessed that they traffic in cocaine from Bolivia for distribution in Mendoza and Cordoba. The Bolivian Sanchez is from Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0350 GMT 22 Dec 76 PY

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

NEW NARCOTICS LAW REPRESENTS ADVANCE

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Dec 76 p 3 PY

Editorial: "Old Flaws in the New Drug Law"

Text Compared with previous laws in this field, the new antidrug law represents an advance in the repression of drug traffic. In this difficult field of penal legislation, we have gone from a position of not differentiating between the consumer and the trafficker, subjecting both to heavy penalties, to a position of almost impunity with legal action practically left in the hands of the police. The new text maintains that impunity for violators, which is facilitated by the corruption prevailing in important sectors of the police. The indictment of innocent persons, cleverly contrived by dishonest policemen who engaged in the practice of planting drugs in the pockets or in the rooms of those they wanted to frame, drew the suspicion of judges and the judiciary branch which began to be more careful with cases related to drug traffic and consumption.

Although it still needs some amendments, the new law tries to protect the citizen against practices of the kind mentioned, and thus it does not consider the possession of a small amount of drugs as a crime, provided it is a first violation. But the new law could be more permissive in that sense forbidding, for instance, the punishment of an occasional experimenter. Among the young people occasional experimenters are common and they should not for that reason have this disgraceful stigma on their record. The new law also treats with leniency those who became drug-dependent, recommending that they be submitted to appropriate treatment to return them to normal life in society. Nevertheless, the new law repeats some old mistakes--which call for immediate correction--in stating the procedural norms, which no doubt reveal a more acute juridical sense than previous laws.

In fact, ordinary procedures, provided for by the existing penal procedural code, would be sufficient to insure the speedy disposal of cases as intended by the text now in force. The differences are minimal and more protection would be given to society if the rules of the current procedural law are maintained.

It should also be noted that in trying to accelerate the prosecution of cases the new law restricts the rights of the defense too much, rights which in a civilized society must be the broadest possible.

Why, for example, does the new bill order the indictment and trial of the defendant--even in absentia--only 5 days after serving the subpoena /citacao edital, with all the other procedures of the process continuing, independent of personal notification.

The restriction represents a backward step inasmuch as it puts constraints on the work of the defense. It is known in fact that the draft of the new penal procedural code, trying to insure better application of the penal law, in its Article 19 establishes that the sentence can only be rendered after personal notification, even if a summons has been issued. Among the special procedures for cases of nonappearance of the defendant in court, therefore, the new code establishes the special review and the recourse of declaring the subpoenas null and void on the ground that the accusation is false.

Punishment demands a maximum of circumspection, since the situation in the prisons in Brazil demonstrates that the bad side of punishment is often greater than its few and arguable virtues. Punishment is far from being a decisive factor in the rehabilitation of the criminal.

If only the federal government heard with more attention the many considerations and observations made about this question, we certainly would have a more effective and just--closer to the ideal of justice--law in this intricate and delicate matter of drugs.

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

DRUG TRAFFICKER ARRESTED IN RIO WITH 1.5 KILOS COCAINE

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Nov 76 p 20

Text Yesterday, at Ricardo de Albuquerque suburb in Rio, Federal Police agents captured Jose Quintino Pereira, a drug trafficker, and seized 1.5 kilos of cocaine which he had in his possession. That amount of the drug, estimated 90 percent pure, could be used to prepare 6 or 8 kilos for sale to addicts.

Jose Quintino was arrested in the house of trafficker Antenor Coutinho Rocha who managed to escape with his 2-year-old son when he suspected that police were coming. Jose Quintino had brought from Mato Grosso the seized cocaine which was to be sold to Antenor who is said to be one of the largest drug suppliers in Rio de Janeiro.

Several days ago, federal agents began the search for Antenor's house. They arrested some drug addicts and seized a certain amount of cocaine. Laboratory tests revealed that the seized drugs came from the same source. Additional arrests made possible the discovery of the traffickers' hiding place. Antenor paid 300 cruzeiros rent for the modest house. This led the agents to conclude that he lived a double life. It is accepted that Antenor has another home where he lives another life-style thanks to his income from drug trafficking. Besides Jose Quintino, some of Antenor's relatives, including his wife, were arrested at the house. Their names were not disclosed.

Jose Quintino confessed that he is a "courier" who transports drugs. He lives in Ceara and periodically took cocaine from Mato Grosso to Rio de Janeiro. The police also seized at the house two executive-type briefcases. One of them contained cocaine, airplane tickets, credit cards and checkbooks. In the other were found 11,000 cruzeiros in cash and a packet of 200 grams of cocaine used as a "sample."

8923
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BRAZIL

MAJOR DRUG TRAFFICKER SOUGHT ON MURDER CHARGES

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DO SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Nov 76 p 28

Text Rio--The Rio de Janeiro police was given a judicial order to carry out a mission which for years it has attempted in vain--to capture Sebastiao Correa dos Santo, alias Tainha, said to be the largest drug distributor in the state. But Tainha will not be arrested for drug trafficking. Judge Alberto Motta Moraes, of the First Jury Trial Court issued an order for his arrest on the basis of an investigation indicating he assassinated Edir da Silva Gama, alias "Italia," another large Rio trafficker who died of 11 bullet wounds on 26 April of this year.

The investigation of "Italia's" murder was made by the Homicide Department who requested the preventative arrest of "Tainha" issued yesterday by Judge Alberto Motta Moraes. "Tainha" has his "general headquarters" at Livramento Hill near the Central do Brasil Railroad. He divided the hill into four large sectors for the sale of drugs and turned over three sectors to the traffickers "Vanildo" (murdered), "Italia" (murdered) and "Cueca" who still sells drugs at his post. "Tainha" himself took over the command of the other sector and remains there up to now.

The Crime

When "Tainha" was imprisoned some years ago, he assigned "Italia" to send him money to the jail. "Italia" kept the agreement for some months but then suspended the deliveries. When "Tainha" left the prison, he settled the account with "Italia" by killing him.

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CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

LEADER OF COCAINE TRAFFICKING RING ARRESTED--The Brazilian Jose Pininga (35 years old, married, resident at 1321 First of April Street, Corumba, Mato Grosso) was arrested yesterday at dawn at Julio Mesquita Square with a briefcase containing a kilogram of refined cocaine. The police of the Narcotics Division of DEIC [Criminal Investigations Department] think he is the second most important man in an international cocaine traffickers gang led by the Bolivian Ramon Santiago. The drug, which was refined in Porto Suarez, Bolivia, is valued at 240,000 cruzeiros. The Narcotics Division agents, who were waiting for the trafficker when he disembarked on his arrival from Corumba, arrested him when he entered "Hotel Principe" at which he had made a reservation. Today Jose Pininga was to send the cocaine by air mail to Italy. He had just arrived from Mato Grosso by train. He had received the package from the supplier Ramon Santiago, the owner of a refinery at Porto Suarez. [Text] [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Nov 76 p 24] 8923

RIO POLICE SEIZED DRUGS, ARRESTED 105 PERSONS--Operation Rainbow, aiming at the capture of Tainha and his gang, produced 105 arrests and the seizure of a large amount of drugs. Chief of Police Edgard Pires da Sa, director of the Metropolitan Police Department, with men from the Center, North and South Vigilance Police Headquarters made the roundup at Providencia Hill near the Central do Brasil Railroad. On the steps leading to the slums, Joao Luis Ferreira was arrested with a revolver, an adding machine and a balance for weighing cocaine in his possession. At the top of the hill, Valdir Goncalves Barcelos, who had in his possession 98 grams of cocaine and \$107 worth of marihuana, was shot twice when he fired at the police. Tainha escaped but \$800 worth of marihuana was seized in the shacks used by his gang. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Nov 76 p 22] 8923

COCAINE SEIZURE, ARREST IN BOTAFOGO--Vanderlei Ferreira Coelho, alias "Paulistinha," was arrested yesterday at Azul Hill in Botafogo with 132 packets of cocaine and 10 bags of marihuana. At the 10th Police Headquarters, "Paulistinha" confessed that some days ago he murdered a man known as Ruco and had held up several gasoline stations, bakeries and a bank in Santos, Sao Paulo. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Nov 76 p 18] 8923

COLOMBIA

'GLORIA' INVESTIGATION TERMINATED

Bogota EL EXPECTADOR in Spanish 21 Nov 76 pp 1-A, 12-A

/Text/ Judge Judith Camargo de Borre of the First Criminal Circuit Court in Cartagena has declared that the investigation into the discovery of 40 kilos of cocaine in the training ship "Gloria" is closed. The judge is now studying the case to determine whether there is sufficient cause to try the individuals involved for that crime.

Judge Camargo de Borre ordered and signed arrest warrants for Gilberto de Jesus Arboleda, Sergio Alvarez Casrasquilla, Pedro Claver Gomez Hoyos and Elizabeth del Carmen Giraldo Jimenez. The four suspects were arrested by the Mexican police as they were about to leave for Miami where they were to pick up the large drug shipment which had been secretly taken aboard the ship by a powerful drug ring. The ring took advantage of the fact that the navy had authorized the shipment of Colombian-made goods to promote our nation's foreign trade.

Commander's Statement

The final testimony taken by Judge Camargo de Borre was from the commander of the "Gloria," Capt Rafael Martinez Reyes who testified at length and satisfactorily about the details of this embarrassing case. As was reported at the time, Captain Martinez Reyes conducted a thorough search of the ship which led to the discovery of the 40 kilos of the drug which was to be delivered in Miami to the "contacts" of the Colombian drug dealers.

It should not be forgotten that the action taken by Navy Commander Adm Jose Alfonso Diaz Osorio and the captain of the ship made possible the arrest of the suspects and the seizure of the drug. It should also be noted that Captain Martinez Reyes has never been under investigation and his appearance before the judge of the First Criminal Circuit Court was simply to testify.

It should be noted that there are three separate inquiries stemming from the seizure of the 40 kilos of cocaine from the "Gloria." One of these investigations, as was reported earlier, is in the hands of Judge Camargo

de Borre who heard the case of the million-peso robbery of the Banco de la Republica in Cartagena. Another of the cases will be heard by the judge of the Superior Court in Cartagena and deals with the murder of four people in New York by the drug ring that placed the drug on board the navy ship. EL ESPECTADOR reported some time ago that the members of the dangerous drug ring had killed Oscar and Susana Toro and their nursemaid Lilia Bustamente apparently in retribution for some transaction related to the cocaine traffic. The fourth person killed was a man named Librado who was a witness to the killing of the children and their nursemaid. Pedro Claver Gomez Hoyos and Gilberto de Jesus Arboleda are charged with the killings and are being held in jail in Ciudad Heroica.

The third inquiry in the celebrated case is being handled by the command of the Navy of the Atlantic which will soon open court martial proceedings against the servicemen involved in the affair. To date the only serviceman who has been implicated as a co-conspirator in the drug traffic is Chief Petty Officer Jenaro Arias Londono who was the boatswain on the Gloria. A warrant for his arrest was issued by Judge 41 of criminal military proceedings, Victor Manuel Nieto Soacha.

Despite this, it has been learned that at least eight more crew members have been implicated in the case either through direct participation or through dereliction of duty.

The Supreme Court of Justice, it should be recalled, settled the conflict over jurisdiction raised by one of the defense attorneys. The defense attorney argued that the servicemen implicated in the case should be tried by military tribunal.

EL ESPECTADOR also learned that Judge Camargo de Borre signed arrest warrants for Alberto Herrera, Victor Jaramillo, Joel Morales and Elkin "El Tao" N. who apparently have been implicated by the investigation into the drug traffic to the United States. The five sic men were served a summons and the judge appointed Jorge Echeverri Mora to be their attorney.

In addition, it was also learned that to date 41 crew members of the "Gloria" have also been questioned. The "Gloria" recently returned to Colombia.

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CSO: 5300

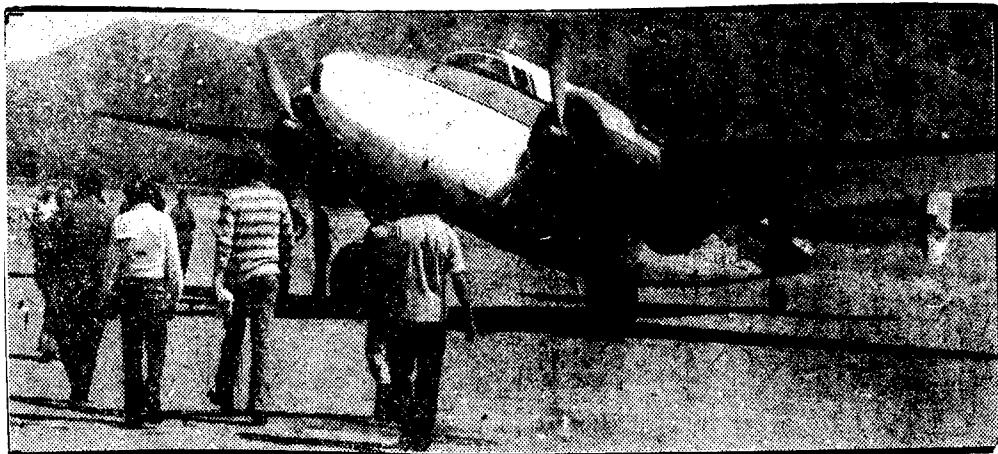
COLOMBIA

AIRCRAFT, SUSPECTED TRAFFICKERS SEIZED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 29 Nov 76 p 8-A

/Photo caption/

/Text/ The Santa Marta DAS seized this airplane with U.S. registry No. N 789-F and arrested its two occupants, a U.S. national and a Mexican, who claimed they were forced to make an emergency landing due to engine failure. However, the two are believed to be involved in narcotics trafficking because they do not have a logbook and their explanation as to their point of departure was unsatisfactory.



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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE, WEAPONS SEIZURE--Medellin--Six drug dealers were arrested by agents of the Antioquia branch of the Administrative Security Department. Some 855 grams of cocaine and some weapons were found in their possession. The arrest of the drug dealers occurred recently in Envigado at 36-14 39th Street South. The agents also seized two automobiles used by the drug dealers. The drug dealers were identified as Joaquin Garcia Giaz, Mario "El Gacharrero" Garces Diaz, Francisco Hernando Arboleda Alvarez, Maria Helena Bolivar de Garces, Fabio de Jesus Gonzalez Pulgarin and Maria Isabel Rivera de Gonzalez. /Text/ /Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 12 Nov 76 p 10-A/ 8599

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS--Santa Marta--In a surprise operation police units of the Cienaga District seized 25 sacks of marihuana which were ready for export. The seizure occurred on the beach of Islas del Rosario where three unidentified men were guarding the marihuana. When the drug dealers spotted the police, they opened fire. Fortunately no one was hurt. /Text/ /Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 19 Nov 76 p 13-A/ 8599

FOREIGN TRAFFICKERS DEPORTED--Barranquilla--Three foreigners will be expelled from the country after having spent 3 years in Modelo Jail here. U.S. nationals Brian Michael O'Malley, 20, of New York, Robert Frank Laserna, 32, also of New York and Ecuadorean Diogenes Juvenal Vera left on a commercial flight to Miami or some other city in the United States. The decision was made by the leadership of the DAS /Administrative Department of Security/ which is currently headed by Acting National Inspector Alfonso Perez. Under Article 17 of 1974 Decree 625, these foreigners are forbidden from returning to the country under the penalties established therein. The three were tried and found guilty of possession and trafficking in cocaine by the judge of the Third Criminal Circuit Court. /Text/ /Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 28 Nov 76 p 13-A/ 8599

COLOMBIAN DRUG TRAFFICKER--(Rome, EFE)--Interpol has instructed all its member organizations to attempt to arrest, "wherever he may be found," the international criminal Hector Agudelo Pereira Ripasalda (Colombian, 27 years old) who is considered to be "one of the biggest importers of drugs from South America." The Colombian, whose whereabouts is unknown, supplied drugs to Mario Streccioni, a prominent figure in Rome's underworld who is currently under arrest. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 20 Dec 76 p 10-A]

TRAFFICKER'S DEATH--Bogota, 30 Dec--Susan Manville, a 25-year-old U.S. citizen, died suddenly at the Medellin Airport shortly before boarding a plane for Bogota. An autopsy revealed that death was caused by the disintegration of one of 82 plastic bags of pure cocaine which were found in the young woman's stomach. Miss Manville, who was evidently involved in drug trafficking using the method which caused her death, was carrying an airline ticket for Quito (Ecuador), Bogota and Los Angeles. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0235 GMT 31 Dec 76 PA]

NARCOTICS RING SMASHED--Bogota, 28 Dec--The head of the Colombian Administrative Department of Security [DAS] has announced the arrest of 34 narcotics peddlers and the seizure and destruction of 45 kg of cocaine paste and 5 kg of pure cocaine. The DAS report said it had also raided three narcotics processing laboratories, destroyed 25,395 coca plants and seized two automobiles, several weapons, ammunition and dynamite during the course of a 90-day operation. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 2325 GMT 28 Dec 76 PA]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

BRIEFS

HEROIN TRAFFICKER NABBED--Mexico City, 2 Jan--Mrs Chinquiquira Quiroz de Londono, a Colombian citizen, was arrested at the airport while attempting to smuggle in 4.5 kg of heroin in the false bottom of a suitcase. She had arrived aboard an Aerolineas Argentinas flight from Bogota. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1603 GMT 2 Jan 77 PA]

CSO: 5300

HARMFUL EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE DESCRIBED

Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 48, 1 Dec 76 p 13

[Article by A. Lichko, professor and doctor of medical science: "A Foreign Disease"]

[Text] Two 16-year-old boys not at all similar to each other. One, let us call him Sergey, is lanky and glances around lazily and almost with contempt; he mischievously averts his eyes the moment the conversation touches on his life.

Sergey grew up without a father and from his first years in school caused his mother and aunt, who raised him, a lot of worry. Until the fourth grade the two women were able to keep him under control. And then suddenly shooting up and growing in the course of a single summer, he no longer had any use for his family. He began spending his days in street gangs, skipping school, loafing in his classes, but he was still dragged along from grade to grade. He began answering his mother's reproaches with unprintable swearing and he returned home with the smell of wine on his breath.

His first acquaintance with the police occurred, followed by another one.... He drank up a bottle of wine on the sly with his friends, bothered foreigners near a hotel, and cadged chewing gum and all sorts of odds-and-ends. And now school is completely abandoned, and the commission of juvenile affairs is meeting. The teenage street gangs had become the main thing in his life. It was there that everything began....

Things were entirely different with Sasha. He grew up in a family of good, modest workers. From childhood obedient and dependable like his father, industrious and quiet, Sasha was a stay-at-home and a reserved person, always building something or reading, he loved to draw, and preferred all this to noisy comrades. He didn't cause anyone any trouble. Until sixth grade he was an "excellent" pupil, and even then was not at all a bad student. In the eighth grade the unexpected happened. On a school exhibition stand Sasha drew a witch which looked very much like his class monitor. A storm broke out in the school. He was called to the director. He was sullenly silent, did not deny it, did not defend himself, but also did not want to explain anything.

Later he opened for me the curtain over what happened. In class in front of everyone his class monitor undeservedly, from his viewpoint, insulted a fellow student. Although he was not a friend of his, he felt he had to "avenge the injustice." He firmly decided to leave school. He selected a professional-technical school for himself where experts in applied art were prepared. Here he immediately rose to the top. His mother soon heard from the experts such words as "golden hands," "impeccable taste."

And here his first close friend appeared--a strapping, strong, powerfully-built young man, bold to the point of desperation, independent to the point of impudence. He took Sasha under his tutelage, and the latter willingly submitted. It seemed to Sasha that his friend "understands everything at once, one doesn't even need to say anything." This young man, who is now in prison for a knife-fight, was hardly distinguished by delicate feelings or a marvelous capacity for discrimination, but it is apparent that Sasha found something in him of which he had so far been deprived. Everything began with this friend....

And what was it that started? What brought these up until then healthy boys to me in an adolescent psychiatric clinic?

Both Sasha and Sergey were stricken with that disease which in recent decades has attacked the young people of many Western countries in epidemic proportions. I am speaking of narcotics....

Dangerous Curiosity

In the last 10 years we have been having occasion to read in newspapers and magazines and to hear on the radio about the many thousands of adolescent narcotics addicts in the USA, England, Sweden, Canada.... Almost every tenth school pupil, almost every fourth or fifth college student in the United States is subject to this destructive passion. They say it all started in Japan. In the mid-fifties a passion for one of the stimulant drugs had already begun to spread among the Japanese young people.

At the end of the fifties this passion spread to America, and there quickly passed from young people to adolescents.

Hearing of the massive narcotization of adolescents in the West, we justly evaluated this manifestation as one of the plagues of modern capitalist society. Even our professional psychiatrists had and have an attitude toward this more of interest than of worry. These are literally typhoons or volcanic eruptions which are raging somewhere, but there is no reason to think that they will ever reach us. Really we do have efficiently operating, severe and strictly observed laws limiting the production and distribution of narcotics by the most necessary medical framework. Our soviet conditions make completely impossible the existence of firms secretly dealing in narcotics, the acquisition of narcotic contraband from abroad, and unimpeded distribution of marihuana among young people. We know that in our country there are not the social conditions for mass drug addiction.

But all the same... One cannot forget that we are not shut off from the surrounding world by an impassable wall. And adolescence is such an age that everything new and unusual seems tempting. It is still hard for one to distinguish where is good and where, evil, while it is already impossible to admit one's lack of experience.

Alright, these are just a few isolated instances. Is it worthwhile to sound an alarm? I am sure that it is. All the experience of medical science, all the prophylactic spirit of Soviet medicine calls us to this.

What is it that draws adolescents to narcotics?

My limited experience is based more on the study of adolescents who are not yet drug addicts, but who have only incidentally or sporadically "fooled around" with some sort of substitutes. It has not infrequently been possible to establish a contact based on trust with them. One must listen to a desire to be free from the guardianship of parents, from the regulating guidelines for behavior in school.

Movies? What am I, a kid?.... Television? I'm tired of it!.... Groups?.... A bore!.... A club? I'm danced out! Tourist excursions? What am I, a camel? One could thus lay out in its most concise form our conversation with Sergey about his interests and amusements.

The most frequent and evidently the chief cause drawing people to narcotics is a distinctive sort of curiosity.

"I thought that if every tenth school pupil in New York smokes marihuana, then there probably isn't anything wrong with trying it!" Sergey told me. "It's dangerous? I heard on the radio that several dozen people died in New York from narcotics. Another time they said that thousands die in automobiles. So is it more dangerous to cross the street?"

A second factor is joined with ardent curiosity. According to the opinion of foreign specialists in 90 percent of the cases the beginning of narcotics use occurs in "one's own group." The desire not to lag behind one's peers plays an important role.

A third factor enters into it much more rarely than the others. But it is one of the most sinister, facilitating the fact that an acquaintance with narcotics quickly develops into a need. It is possible that a hidden nervous disorder or psychological anomaly sometimes plays a definite role here.

What then really is the danger of hashish, marihuana, anasha--of all these substances for smoking with different names and identical effects brought about by the substance with the long scientific name of "theta-nine-tetra-cannabiol" which is contained in them? In American journals one might come across statements that it is much easier for a marihuana smoker to give it up than for a confirmed tobacco smoker. Evidently this affirmation has brought someone more than a little income.

But in the serious research of American psychiatrists we learn of two dangers of marihuana. Among its regular users psychoses are encountered hundreds of times more often than among healthy people. I personally had occasion to see a young man who had a psychosis with hallucinations and delusions of persecution begin after a hashish cigarette, and it all ended in schizophrenia.

The other danger concerns not just some, but all narcotics addicts. Gradually and without noticing it themselves they are transformed into sluggish, apathetic, inactive people who have lost their interest in life and in the future. Emaciated, quickly exhausted by the slightest exertion, they look much older than their years and suffer from constant headaches. Their memory starts to grow weak and they lose the ability to carry a thought through to the end. Their apathy may seem from the side like philosophical tranquility. But nothing remains of it as soon as they are deprived of their habitual cigarettes. Sluggishness, calm are replaced by outbursts of anger and sullen suspiciousness. And the main thing is that the apathy, the weakened memory, the difficulty in thinking all remain even when they stop smoking marihuana, they remain, evidently, forever. It is obvious that hashish is not at all the same thing as tobacco. And whoever, in pursuit of a bad fashion and unusual sensations, tries smoking a "joint" is risking both a psychosis and psychological invalidism.

Hashish is forbidden in our country.

Morphine pills are under strict control. Pure codeine is given out only with prescriptions on special forms. But it is impossible to remove from pharmacies all the good remedies for headaches or all the cough medicines.

It is hard to foresee in advance when playing around is transformed into slavish dependence. American psychiatrists write that two doses of heroin are enough for an adolescent.

...Sasha's forearms are covered with traces of injections, his veins are like hard braids surrounded with bruises in all stages of development, from black-and-blue to light yellow. Is it easy to give yourself an intravenous injection! A fever rushes to his head, hot flashes pass through his body, his face itches and swells. And before long the real, serious retribution will come. In just a few weeks his strength is already declining, he has insomnia, constipation, loss of appetite, loss of weight, pale and dried out skin, an aging face, his hair is falling out, and his teeth are crumbling. All these are the first signs of the coming decay.

And narcotics demand more and more. Ten times and even a hundred times more! It comes to the point that in one dose many times the fatal dose for an ordinary person is taken--so accustomed has the organism become to the narcotic, that even with this the "high" constantly weakens and does not amount to anything. The constant introduction of large doses of narcotic alters something in the chemical process which takes place in the organism

and affects the functioning of the nervous system. Without the narcotic a serious, painful condition--withdrawal--quickly develops. Because of the unbelievable pains in his muscles the narcotics addict turns like a top in his bed. He cannot eat and drink, since it is painful to chew and swallow. To this are added spasmodic pains in the stomach, chills, and a drop in heart rate.

Serious withdrawals are dangerous to one's life.

Now it is no longer the quest for a "high," but fear which drives the narcotics addict to his daily search for narcotics. Everything is sacrificed-- honor, the welfare of one's family, and one's own well-being. Criminal acts with the aim of acquiring narcotics become quite possible. It starts with forging prescriptions, disturbances in drug stores, petty theft, further-- more.

Sasha admitted that on days when he could not obtain anything for his next fix, he began to "visit" other apartments. He made a lock-pick, investigated to find out where no one was home, broke in, found the family medicine chest and "requisitioned" everything he needed. He did not take anything else, . and it is possible that many of his thefts remained unnoticed.

In the last weeks Sasha felt that his daily morning fix was not enough for him. He always took it at home, in his room, locking the door as if to do his morning exercises. Now, in the second half of the day in the professional-technical school, hiding in the toilet, he started taking a booster fix. Here is where he was discovered....

A Coarsened Life

During a difficult withdrawal in a hospital, means can be taken to save the person and painful and dangerous complications can be avoided. Weeks pass before the organism loses its dependence on the narcotic, before the usual course of physiological processes is established. After treatment Sergey did not return to narcotics. He was soon drafted into the army, and that removed him from the swamp of street gangs that was engulfing him.

Sasha's fate turned out to be unhappy. A year and a half later he turned up in our clinic again. But how he had changed now! Somehow he had all withered. Previously dark-complexioned and handsome, he sat before me deathly pale, with peeling, dry skin. Dark pouches hung under his once light-blue, but now faded and yellowed eyes. His previously fluffy dark hair--an object of envy to his comrades in the professional-technical school--had become so very thin that he no longer made an effort to conceal the bald spot which was showing through at 18 years of age. And his gaze had become something lifeless, dull.

He had quit school. Of his talent there remained not a trace. He was all thumbs, and even the articles which earlier had given him so much joy, were

now indifferent. He had lost several jobs--he was dismissed everywhere for absenteeism. There was no time to work--he was looking for where he could get his hands on narcotics. For this he would do anything. Once in a pharmacy he observed how a sick old woman, who had with difficulty dragged herself out for her medicine, received codeine by prescription. He followed her. He overtook her in a dark doorway and grabbed her purse from her hands. She held on, frightened, uncomprehending. He shoved her. She fell on the stone steps. He ran off with his prize. But he had already been noticed in the pharmacy. He was caught. Thus he again was sent for treatment while awaiting trial.... At home too everything was bad. His total callousness was killing his relatives. Within his family he had become worse than a stranger. His mother, whom he earlier had loved tenderly, was lying near death in a hospital. He did not even visit her. "I don't care anymore," he said, "I've forgotten how to love. I don't expect anything; I don't need anyone."

Soon after his first treatment a bright happiness came to him--mutual love. It brought him everything he had earlier lacked--he felt that he was understood and tenderly and devotedly loved, that someone needed him. But once his hand, following its old habit, reached out for the needle. Having started taking shots again, he was no longer able to give it up. Having taken up his shots again, Sasha soon made a terrible discovery. "I understood that I had become impotent," he told me now with a grin as if he did not care. But at the time a terrifying feeling of embarrassment and torture seized him. He decided that everything was lost already. He crudely destroyed himself the love which at first he had held so dear. "What's the point in taking treatments?" he asked me. "I won't last anyway and will start all over again. Leave things the way they are!" He did not understand what was awaiting him in the future, now very close.

Among the young people of Western countries one comes across cases of drug addiction which are already very far gone--the so-called third stage.... One cannot call such subjects anything but living corpses. Extremely emaciated and weakened, they are not able to get out of bed, to eat, or to smoke without the required dose of narcotics. This usually does not last long. The organism's resistance falls. A common cold is easily complicated by fatal pneumonia. Surviving the flu is already beyond their strength.

For each person who reads these lines the question unavoidably will arise: what then can be done to prevent the infiltration of our country by adolescent drug addiction and to eliminate the threat to the health of the rising generation?

For this purpose we require further perfecting of our legislation, increased control over various substances which can potentially create a problem of abuse, and extreme care in prescribing narcotic preparations for medicinal purposes. And of course we need a broad complex of educational measures which will create a healthy moral climate, reasonable and attractive leisure, and the development of the many and varied interests of young people infinitely far removed from whatever is in any way associated with the "foreign disease."

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

COMMENTARY ON MEASURES AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 21 Dec 76 p 3

[Article by Luigi Cancrini: "Drugs: The Many Whys Still Without Answers"]

[Text] I think it is undoubtedly possible now to begin to reflect on the validity of some forecasts at the beginning of the 70's made concerning the drug problem. Then there was talk about its spread among broad groups of the youth population in Italy as if it were an event almost taken for granted when there were no proposed remedies to meet a series of decisive factors in the development of this dramatic manifestation of social disease.

A first fact for consideration is that tied to the need, now described without opposition on the scientific and cultural level; a) of considering drug addiction as an extreme manifestation of maladjustment among youth; b) as the consequence of decision made on the international level by criminal organizations equipped with enormous financial means and exceptional capacity for maneuver and pressure. Concerning the first point I would like here only to emphasize briefly the relationship that ties the experience of the drug addict with evidence of rejection of reality, and of chronic, atrocious habit, coupled with the idea of death and the impossibility of reacting to the more general situation of disintegration in which youths today deal with their relations with adults.

It has been said and written hundreds of times in this regard that the question of the drug habit can be seriously studied and adequately faced only if there is the ability, the patience and the political will to insert it within a broader problem: that concerning the various manifestations of youth disorientation and the objective seriousness of the framework within which society defines its answers to the emergence of these manifestations. To develop real efforts of prevention against drug addiction means then to set forth in real terms the entire complex problem of the condition of youth and of the factors of disorganization to which it is exposed. And the facts tell us day by day which and how many delays and errors have been committed on this point for the past 30 years by misgovernment and corruption.

Certainly it is not easy to convince everyone of the validity of this statement which can be criticized for an apparent lack of impracticality in preference

perhaps to the promise of a specialized center capable of solving all problems. But this illusion vanishes immediately when one becomes aware of the fact that the behavior of a single individual can be adequately understood and usefully discussed only if seen within the context in which it assumes form and meaning and that the only possible help is that which takes place on the level of the social situation that produces the drug addiction.

Drug addiction in fact is usually configured as an extreme manifestation of the maladjustment of youth, even though in saying this we attack the myth, so dear to reactionary forces, of the "healthy youth," who is "serene, well-inserted into the family and school," upon whom suddenly the destructive force of the "demon drug" is unleashed. We know that the youth groups in the population among whom drug addiction tends to spread are those in which modern capitalist society permits and encourages the production of the most varied forms of maladjustment: children who come from the outlying areas of the large cities and who pay even with their flesh for the crime committed against their parents by a society based on exploitation and thievery; young persons rejected and stigmatized by a school system incapable of giving adequate answers to their need for growth and who are faced--after the teachers and professors have "gotten rid of them"--with choosing between the road of maladjustment and that of employment of minors. They are young people who later are definitively put into a state of crisis by the rejection of a labor market in which the successive squeezes of demand and continually feed a situation of exploitation by underemployment and lack of qualifications; young persons, in other words, who live in conditions of distress similar to those in the ghettos of the large American cities, that is, the places toward which a large part of the heroin produced and sold in the entire world is directed.

We note further that the drug habit is usually facilitated precisely by the institutions to which the drug addict (actual and potential) is directed for programs of "cure" and "rehabilitation." The work started by an urban fabric that is alienating and destructive and by a school system incapable of ensuring the satisfaction of the most elementary rights of minors is refined and completed, in fact, in the institutions, in the reeducation centers, or in centers of confinement and psychiatric hospitals.

It would be worthwhile to reflect on these things in view of the pale and worried faces of those who were responsible for 30 years of disaster: it would be useful if they were to begin to become aware of the fact that people also can be murdered by omission and that there are many juvenile "delinquents" who died before they began to live and that their number is growing while not even one trial has taken place against those who could have presented this occurrence but did not know how or did not want to.

On the basis of these facts clear indications emerge from the adoption of a relative prospect in the fight against drug use. In fact it is a question of:

- a) considering "drugs" an aspect, that is not even essential, of the phenomenon being discussed;

b) to discuss fully the present condition of functioning of the institutions that aim at, in other words, "cure" or "re-education;"

c) to insert the necessary efforts designed to repress the traffic into a broader concept of effort capable of dealing with the institutional essence of the problem.

With these observations we have arrived at the second point described at the beginning of our discussion. With extreme clarity we must recognize the fact that the decision to sell hard drugs in Italy by criminal organizations that have controlled world sales of the drug nowadays constitutes a decisive element in understanding the reason for the spread of a new form of serious maladjustment among youth. This is not the place for a deep discussion of such a problem.

However, I should like to note here:

a) that regarding heroin, the very serious lack (and this must be corrected) of diplomatic efforts on the UN level that would clearly state the principle that the problem of distribution of hard drugs means a discussion with seriousness and with a precise political determination, of the problem of cultivation and production of opium;

b) the need to consider the efforts that can be made here and now in our country, against the distribution of drugs as initiatives that have, in any case, a possibility of succeeding that are tied more to the struggle against the situation in which it finds areas of acceptance rather than the struggle against traffickers, a serious difficult and important struggle, but which it is possible to win only if the underlying political problem is faced.

c) Regarding other narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, it is necessary to fully consider the role and responsibility of the multinational pharmaceutical firms and the systematic weakness with which our minister of health so far has permitted the sacrifice, in the interests of their bank accounts, of the health and freedom of Italian citizens.

But it is no longer time for accusations or polemics concerning the past. Fortebraccio, some weeks ago wrote in these columns that "we are working today in a society for which we did not demand the benefit of inventory: it had to be taken as it was, otherwise those who controlled it until yesterday, using it as a tool of domination and theft, would have preferred to lead it to irreparable and ultimate destruction rather than allow us to touch the final proof of their misgovernment.

To fight against drug addiction for communists means therefore to resume, in a political picture that is new in many ways, the struggle that they have always fought against the causes of alienation and deviation; against the domination of capital, inside the plant and outside of it, where the attempt to maintain the premises of a market economy chooses a road of mass unemployment and development of an increasingly broader marginal effort.

However, we must convince ourselves more than we have so far, of the fact that this struggle is to be fought within existing institutions. Worn out, in disrepair, used to getting and proposing results in open conflict with their institutional aims, they must be involved in a project of renewal expressed on the national level as a demand for health reform that must be decided immediately and realized rapidly; a project of renewal, in brief, that identifies courage with realism, daring with patience, the aspirations toward the new, and hope in a different society with the ability to face the humble tasks of every day.

It is within this broader perspective that considerable areas are opened even regarding the more specific field of drug addiction, for the propagation and application of a valid law, without forgetting the existing possibility of further improving it. Therefore we must exercise a serious, tenacious, patient control over the resistances that still exist: for example, on the level of the health ministry, (regarding the publication of correct, clear tables); it is necessary to make an effort in Parliament, in the local administrations and throughout the country for a radical reform of the concepts and methods of aid that will permit the realization of the promises of the law concerning the prevention, cure and rehabilitation of drug addiction. However, we must always keep in mind that the question of drug use can be faced and solved only if it is recognized that it is a partial problem. In brief, only if it is recognized that the true work of prevention and cure is carried out on the level of the real causes of this phenomenon.

6034

CSO: 5300

ITALY

SERIES OF NARCOTIC DEALERS ARRESTED IN ROME

Rome ANSA in English 0805 GMT 30 Dec 76 AU

Text Rome, 30 Dec (ANSA)--Fiumicino Airport authorities have announced their seventh major arrest here since the beginning of the month of suspected drug-dealers arriving in Rome from Bangkok.

A police spokesman identified the latest courier as Lam Chi Bang, a 26-year-old resident of Hong Kong.

Lam was said to have been found in possession of 3 kilos of heroin--the exact same amount found on another Hong Kong resident, Fong Chunh Kon, Tuesday.

The spokesman estimated that the sequestered drugs could have netted at least half a million dollars on Western European markets.

Like Fong and other Asians picked up at the airport this month, Lam flew into the Italian capital aboard an early afternoon plane from Thailand.

Altogether, some 30 kilos of heroin have been uncovered by customs authorities at Fiumicino since the beginning of December.

Although Rome has never been considered impervious to narcotics from the Orient, the greater regularity of the couriers flying into the Italian capital has been attributed to the rigorous measures recently introduced at Amsterdam Airport, until some months ago regarded as the chief terminal in Western Europe for Asian traffickers.

Italian authorities have tended to rule out the possibility that the confiscated drugs were intended for Italy itself, noting that there were much more profitable markets in the north.

Despite the numerous arrests in Rome there has been scant indication to date as to whether police have come up with information on the source of the heroin trail in Asia.

CSO: 5300

ITALY

SIX KILOS OF HEROIN SEIZED IN ROME

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 12 Dec 76 p 14

[Article: "Heroin Worth 800 Million Lire Confiscated at Fiumicino"]

[Text] Six kilos of refined heroin ready for distribution in doses on the clandestine market was captured by customs agents at Fiumicino Airport. The haul was being carried from Bangkok in two large suitcases with false bottoms by a 27 year old Mali citizen Tan Ah Tee. He was arrested on charges of importing and selling narcotic substances. He was discovered by the guards while crossing the frontier since his luggage weighed too much, even after the suitcases were emptied.

The confiscation of this load of drugs began investigation by the internal revenue services Special Police Central Squad that is trying to wipe out complicity which reportedly permitted Tan Ah Tee to put the heroin on the market. Its value is estimated at about 800 million lire. It seems that the six kilos of narcotics were destined for the thousand rivulets of the retail trade. Particularly in recent times this trade is being pushed to a considerable degree in the vicinity of schools, in the center of the city and the suburbs.

A few hours after Tan Ah Tee's arrest, another citizen of Mali was jailed. He reportedly was supposed to receive the heroin. With the help of an interpreter, the latter was interrogated by customs agents and by the judge. They are trying to identify as many persons in the "network" as possible. But that will not be easy: the conspiracy of silence imposed by whoever is at the head of this traffic often has been an insurmountable obstacle. However, until late evening, the revenue agents carried out searches in the city, particularly the homes of citizens of Mali who recently arrived in Rome. Tan Ah Tee, was arrested a few minutes after he descended from an Australian Qantas Airlines plane coming from Thailand. When he arrived at the frontier with his two suitcases, the customs agents stopped him for a routine check. His suitcases were opened and emptied and at this point the suspicions of the customs agents increased. The suitcases were strangely heavy. At this point the Mali youth was invited into the offices of the customs service where the agents literally tore his luggage apart. The six kilos of heroin fell out (to be exact, there were 5.6 kilos). The substance was the famous "brown sugar" which recently has been imported

mainly from Amsterdam but often comes directly from the Far East. The drug was divided into many, many small doses in small envelopes, and they were all enclosed in several sheets of plastic to prevent the odor from escaping. One of the best systems used by the customs officers to stop entry of narcotics at the Fiumicino Airport is the use of trained dogs.

6034

CSO: 3104

ITALY

ROME DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 28 Nov, 15 Dec 76

[28 Nov 76 p 12]

[Text] Two narcotics traffickers who, it appears, functioned as pushers to drug addicts in the Balduina and Monte Mario districts were arrested yesterday morning by the narcotics squad. They are Mauro Licci, 21 years old, a resident of Bari, and Daniela Paris, 31 years old, who lives at 230 Via Angelo Emo.

The former, according to police, had the job of "runner" and brought drugs in directly from Amsterdam, while the woman took care of "splitting up" the merchandise which she sold retail.

The organization's headquarters was located by the narcotics squad in a clothing shop in Balduina, which Daniela Paris headed, used for receiving the drug deliveries which came in, through Licci, from various European countries, mainly Holland.

The other evening plain clothes' policemen, who were stationed in the neighborhood of the clothing shop, saw the woman meet her accomplice and exchange some small packages. Two two were then followed separately: Paris was stopped shortly afterwards by police officers of Monte Mario, while Mauro Licci was tracked to a boarding house on Via Marghera where he roomed.



Daniela Paris

The woman was found in possession of eight grams of heroin, while 25 grams of the same drug were found in Licci's room, and a small measuring scale. The man was carrying another 20 grams of "brown sugar" in his pocket, intended for another retailer.

[15 Dec 76 p 20]

[Text] He was hiding more than three kg of heroin in a false bottom suitcase, but his nervousness during customs inspection gave him away and he was found out. Hee Tham Keong, a 22-year-old Asian, was arrested yesterday morning at Fiumicino Airport where customs officials and finance guards, made suspicious by his behavior, searched his baggage several times and finally discovered the drug, having a value of around 700 million lira.

The "drug runner" landed at Leonardo da Vinci Airport yesterday morning on a flight from Bangkok. When he came to the customs check, the young man showed signs of nervousness and agitation. His behavior did not escape the customs officials who inspected his suitcase. All seemed to be in order on an initial, routine check, but the officials on duty were not convinced. They therefore decided to conduct the passenger to the customs office, where they continued the search with greater thoroughness. This time, the false bottom suitcase did not pass unnoticed. In the suitcase the finance guards found a number of plastic bags containing doses of heroin, already prepared in small quantities ready for distribution. Hee Tham Teng [sic] was immediately arrested and taken to Regina Coeli prison.

Yesterday's drug arrest followed a similar one carried out last Saturday, again at Fiumicino. A young 27-year-old Malaysian, Ta Ah Tee, coming from Bangkok, was arrested because he was concealing 7 kg of heroin in his suitcases. The customs officials detected him while he was crossing the border: his baggage weighed too much, even after everything had been taken out. In this case also the drug was hidden in a false bottom suitcase and was already split up into small doses.

Finance guards believed that the two Orientals caught during border checks on these two occasions are part of the same organization, one of many active in the so-called "golden triangle" of heroin traffic and production, namely Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong and Bangkok.

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ITALY

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN ROME

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 19 Dec 76 p 8



Mario Streccioni and
(below) his girl friend
Giovanna Sartorio

[Text] The operation of two bars at Monte Mario provided the cover for the more lucrative activity [drug trafficking]. Connection with "kidnappers anonymous?" A photograph shows the suspect grouped with well-known organization leaders. His name appears among the documents found on the Calabrese boss killed on Via Archimede. A kilogram of heroin and some jewels were found in the homes of the four arrested.

Mario Streccioni, 48 years of age, owner of two bars in the Monte Mario area, suspected of controlling a large segment of the Roman drug market, involved in foreign currency traffic, implicated--as allegedly proven by numerous documents--in the kidnappers anonymous "gang," was arrested at his home by the carabiniers [Italian national police force comprised of military personnel]. Jewels valued in excess of 100 million lire (perhaps stolen or proceeds from drug sales) and 1 kilogram of pure heroin were found in his home and the homes of his companions by the military police. Giovanna Sartorio, Tunisian, 42 years of age, whom Streccioni was to have married yesterday, Francesca Longatta, 22 years of age, secretary, of Via Pereira 166, and Massimo Maffei, 33 years of age, of Via Roccaraso 27, were jailed, together with Streccioni.

However, others are probably involved in the counterfeit bill and drug traffic. The police inquiry is continuing in an attempt to identify any possible accomplices. In the meantime, the name of Hector Agudelo Pereira Risaralda, Colombian, 27 years of age, has been mentioned. He is alleged to be the international drug courier who arranged the delivery of the merchandise directly to Rome from South America. He is now being sought by Interpol.

The investigation was started 5 months ago when, in the course of inquiries pertaining to kidnappers anonymous an "interesting" photograph was discovered. The picture showed Streccioni beside some known leaders of the kidnapping gang led by Maffeo Bellicini. Moreover, after the murder of Mafia boss Antonio D'Agostino in front of the Archimede restaurant in the Parioli district, Streccioni's name appeared on some documents found on the body of the murdered man.

The carabiniers have been shadowing Streccioni for several weeks, following him on his trips to various Italian cities. Frequent destinations have been Milan, Genoa, Naples and Locri. In particular, during his brief stops in Calabria, Streccioni supposedly contacted various exponents of the local Mafia, also connected with "boss" D'Agostino.

According to the carabiniers, the primary purpose of his travel was always to place large amounts of drugs on the various markets. Also, according to the carabiniers, the merchandise arrived in the capital probably by means of Pereira Risaralda. The Colombian met Streccioni often at Fiumicino airport. This meeting always occurred before each of Streccioni's trips and a few minutes after the arrival of a flight from South America. These were probably the time intervals during which the "merchandise" changed hands from those of the courier to those of the dealer.

Why didn't the carabiniers act during these encounters? The investigators answer that they were waiting for a better opportunity so as to trap some of the accomplices. As a result they were able to arrest Sartorio, Langatta and Maffei. All four have been charged with criminal conspiracy, possession and sale of drugs, traffic in foreign currency, possession of weapons and forgery of documents.

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CSO: 5300

TURKEY

BRIEFS

OPIUM CULTIVATION--The Soil Products Office branch in Usak Province has announced that permission has been granted to 33,105 farming families to plant opium poppy in 118,000 decares of land in the province during the current winter season. Last season permission was granted to some 25,000 farming families and 52,360 decares of land were planted with opium poppy in the province. The amount of opium poppy capsules purchased by the Soil Products Office from the farmers last season was 300 tons. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 0700 GMT 17 Dec 76 TA]

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